

THE CHILD'S SURROUNDINGS.

THE SCHOOLHOUSE.

LOCATION.

The schoolhouse should always be located on an elevation, so that its immediate vicinity is perfectly drained. A slight rise in the ground can generally be found in the flattest section; if not, the site should be carefully drained. A certain amount of shade is desirable, but not too much. Sunshine is essential to health. There should be no trees within 75 feet of the side from which the light comes. The location should be as attractive in appearance as is possible.

APPROACHES.

The roads on general principles ought to be good, but in their relation to the schools all roads leading thereto should have at least a good, dry footpath, as most of the children walk, and every foot-log over a stream, no matter how small, in the hill country at least, should have a hand-rail. Among the tens of thousands of children attending the rural schools, an appreciable number, we have no doubt, lose their lives every year directly or indirectly from sitting with wet feet. Two children were drowned in our immediate neighborhood a year ago crossing an unguarded foot-log during a freshet in what was ordinarily a tiny brook.

CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLHOUSE.

One of the crying needs in our situation is better and more attractive schoolhouses, and in order to assist to some extent in supplying this need, we present plans for houses of one, two and three rooms, the last named being intended to meet the movement towards concentrating the schools which has recently been inaugurated. These plans, which we cordially commend, were prepared at our request by the well-known architects, Messrs. Barrett & Thomson, of Raleigh, and offered by them as a contribution to the general cause. If desired, in the interest of economy, they can be modified without essential alteration. From the hygienic point of view the two main features to be considered in the construction of the schoolroom are the lighting and the ventilation—the former for the protection of the eyes and the latter of the general health of the pupils.

SHAPE.

"It should be oblong, the width being to the length about as three to four, with the teacher's platform at one end."—*Sanitarian*, October, 1885.